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Ms. Magalie Roman Salas  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
455-12<sup>th</sup> Street SW  
Washington, DC 20554

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

98-153 ✓

Dear Ms. Salas:

I am writing in response to the FCC's Notice of Proposed Rule making on ultra-wideband radio. As the executive director of the Coastal Carolina Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association I believe that there is very likely to be significant benefits associated with the testing and development of this emerging technology. In fact, the potential applications of this technology could be most useful for helping to promote the safety and security of America's rapidly expanding senior citizens.

Today, there are approximately 4 million Americans that have Alzheimer's disease and related disorders. This figure is projected to grow dramatically during the next quarter century. In the ten county region of Coastal South Carolina we estimate that there are as many as 14,000 people who suffer from this disease. Wandering is often a major concern for caregivers and providers. Those who do wander are often found not very far from the place that they were living. But search and rescue of people who have Alzheimer's is complicated by the ability of the wanderer to respond to efforts to rescue them. The National Alzheimer's Association Safe Return program would almost certainly be enhanced by the addition of effective wideband technology.

We would encourage the Agency to move expeditiously to approve the opportunity to test and develop the ultra-wideband technology in order for its future application to enhance the quality of American lives.

Sincerely,

Charles L. Fox  
Executive Director

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